

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY K.), PFOR, PINT, UR, US

SUBJECT: LOWELL-MILLER TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY REGARDING
SOVIET JEWRY

1. TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY FROM STANLEY H. LOWELL, NEW
CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY (VICE MAASS)
AND RABBI ISRAEL MILLER, CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE OF PRESI-
DENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, WAS SENT
MARCH 21 BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT REACH SECRETARY'S OFFICE
PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW.

2. TELEGRAM GIVES TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED BY NATIONAL
CONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS "ON EVE OF SECRE-
TARY'S DEPARTURE, ENDORSING JACKSON AMENDMENT AND HOPING
SECRETARY WILL RAISE PROBLEM OF SOVIET JEWRY WHILE IN
MOSCOW. TELEGRAM ALSO REQUESTS MEETING WITH SECRETARY UPON
HIS RETURN.

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3. TEXT OF LOWELL-MILLER TELEGRAM FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: BECAUSE OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE USSR, AND CONFUSING REPORTS REGARDING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY'S VIEWS, THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ALSO ENDORSED BY THE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS, FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT.

INNERQUOTE

ON THE EVE OF THE DEPARTURE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE SOVIET UNION, THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY HAS RECEIVED ALARMING REPORTS OF A SEVERE DECLINE IN THE EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS. THIS SOVIET EFFORT TO SHRINK THE MOVEMENT OF JEWS TO ISRAEL AND ELSEWHERE IS CONTRARY TO ONGOING EFFORTS TO EXPAND TRUE DETENTE.

MINDFUL OF THE IMPACT OF PENDING TRADE LEGISLATION ON THE EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS, WE THEREFORE CHOSE THIS MOMENT TO ENDORSE THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE LEGISLATION BY THE CONGRESS, WHICH WILL ASSIST AN UNHAMPERED AND UNRESTRICTED EMIGRATION. WE UNANIMOUSLY STATE OUR SUPPORT FOR THE JACKSON AMENDMENT, NOW BEFORE THE SENATE WHICH WAS OVERWHELMINGLY PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WE HAVE REQUESTED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO CONTINUE THIS ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS, AND TO UNEQUIVOCALLY STATE THE VIEW OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN REGARD TO THE EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS. WE TRUST THAT THE SECRETARY WILL CONVINCE THE SOVIET UNION THAT THE ROOTS OF THE PROBLEM AND THE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUES ARE IN MOSCOW. END INNER QUOTE.

WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU UPON YOUR RETURN FROM THE USSR.

STANLEY H. LOWELL CHAIRMAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY AND RABBI ISRAEL MILLER CHAIRMAN CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS. END QUOTE. RUSH

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